

Remarks/Arguments

Status of the Application

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 8-9, and 13-14 were allowed and claim 15 was rejected. In the present Response, Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer as to claim 15 so that claims 1-5, 8-9, and 13-15 are pending.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejection

Claim 15 was provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 18 of co-pending patent application No. 10/533,764. Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer herewith thereby rendering this rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw this rejection.

SUMMARY

In view of the terminal disclaimer submitted herewith, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5, 8-9, and 13-15 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance. In order to expedite disposition of this case, the Office is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number below to resolve any remaining issues.

Although Applicants believe no additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees or credit any overpayment(s) to deposit account No. 26-0166, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100883-1 US.

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
Global Intellectual Property, Patents,
1800 Concord Pike
Wilmington, DE-19850-5437
302-885-4269
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Respectfully submitted,

/Jacqueline Cohen/
Jacqueline M. Cohen
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No.: 51,574